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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 16887-1049

In re patent application of

Naruhito KONDO et al.

Serial No. Div. Of 09/393,317

Filed: August 29, 2001

For: METHOD OF TREATING WASTE FROM NUCLEAR FUEL HANDLING  
FACILITY AND APPARATUS FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after the title, please insert the following:

--Related Applications

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/393,317, filed on September 10, 1999.--

Please replace the paragraphs listed below with the following amended paragraphs. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 121, marked up versions of the amended paragraphs are provided showing changes made with brackets and underlines.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 20, which begins on line 9, with the following:

-- The reducing unit 60 reduces radioactive contaminated waste 100. The thermal melting unit 64 heats and melts the reduced waste 101 provided by reducing the radioactive